



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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January 12, 2005

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members
FROM: Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director
**RE: DRAFT STATEMENT OF BOARD POLICY ON POSSIBLE
2005 LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

Background and Summary

State Board of Health Policy 2001-001 creates a procedure for monitoring legislative issues during session. It also establishes processes for communication between Board members and the Legislature. The Board revised this policy in December 2002, and one of the changes allowed for the creation of a Board policy statement that could inform the activities of staff and individual Board members as issues came up during legislative session (the Board will consider additional changes to that policy at today's meeting).

At its December 2004 meeting, the Board reviewed a preliminary draft of a policy statement based on previous statements and a staff assessment of issues that are likely to arise during the 2005 session. After the agenda item, Board members suggested that physical activity warrants being a distinct item. During another agenda item, a member discussed an interest in supporting efforts to improve both access to and the quality of school lunches.

I took those comments and developed a final draft for possible adoption at today's meeting. It contains a section on nutrition and physical activity that is not specific to children and talks about integrating public health and land use. The school health section has been changed to speak to school lunches and to efforts to address asthma and other chronic diseases in school settings. If adopted by the Board, the "Statement of Board Policy on Possible 2005 Legislative Issues" would serve as a guidance document for the 2005 legislative session, which convened January 10.

Recommended Board Action

The Board may wish to consider, amend if necessary, and adopt the following motion.

The Board adopts the "Statement of Board Policy on Possible 2005 Legislative Issues" as submitted on January 12, 2005.

Attachment